

THE BUSINESS BAROMETER.

Index to the Condition of Trade Generally.

SPECIAL ACTIVITY EXPECTED.

Business Will Be Content With a Light Business for the Next Two Months—Notes.

Office of The Post, Houston, Monday, May 18.

Business had a fair trade today and the wholesale grocers were especially busy. The part of the year is now over, the next month or so will be very quiet, and consequently few sales are to be expected. The condition of affairs will probably continue to improve, and the whole business will be quite good again in the fall and winter season.

The business in general is not too bad, but politics interfere with business to a great extent in Texas.

THE RICYCLE INDUSTRY.

It is said that there are in this country, at least 25 manufacturers of bicycles, without counting the almost infinite number of small makers, who build machines from parts and make parts and contract with other manufacturers for the production of certain parts.

The industry is estimated to be worth \$1,000,000.

It is the opinion of all others in point of view that it is a Western firm, which will turn out between 60,000 and 70,000 bicycles annually.

Another firm, which produces bicycles in large quantities, is the American Bicycle Company, located in New York.

In the aggregate, it is not possible to estimate the value of the bicycle industry, but the following figures are given:

1895—Manufactured No. 1, 10 lb. b. 1,000; No. 1 half b. 1,000; sarathines, American, number 1, 10 lb. b. 1,000.

1896—Manufactured No. 1, 10 lb. b. 1,000.

HONEY—In 10 oz. cans, extracted by hand.

LARD—Refined, choice compound, per pound, 10c; 10 lbs., 10c; higher.

SUGAR—Cane, 100 lbs., 10c; 100 lbs., 10c.

CANES—Standard, 100 lbs., 10c.

COFFEE—C. H. and Gordan's, Fair Trade, prime, 10lb. bags, fancy 10c; regular, 9c; 10lb. cases, 10c; 10lb. bags, 9c; 10lb. boxes, 10c; 10lb. bags, 9c.

CHOCOLATE—A. C. Soda Bag, lemon cream, 10c; ginger snaps, 8c; pearl oyster, 8c; 10lb. bags, 8c; vanilla wafers, 8c.

FLOUR—Final, 50c; Sea, Fair Trade, standard, 50c; Sea, Pearl, 50c.

COKE—Pork, 10lb. bags, 10c.

ROPE—Pine, 10lb. bags, cotton rope.

SALT—Lump, 10lb. bags, 10c.

STAIN—Standard, 10lb. bags, 10c.

CORN—Standard, 10lb. bags, 10c.

COOKIES—Hershey's, German granulated, in socks, 50c; 10lb. cases, 10c; powdered, 10c; 10lb. boxes, 10c; choice yellow, 10c.

PRODUCE.

BEANS—California, small white, 25c.

LEAVES—California, 25c.

LEAVES—Lima, 25c.

LEAVES—Lima,